FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

28 MARCH 1984

Iran-Iraq War

Iraqi Air Activity — A formation of Iraq's Super Etendard aircraft attacked and "completely destroyed" two large "naval targets" in the area southwest of Khark Island, an Iraqi military spokesman announced in a statement broadcast by Baghdad radio on 27 March. At the same time, Iraqi planes dealt a "strong blow" to an Iranian oil pumping station near Khorramabad, scoring direct and accurate hits, the spokesman added. Iraq's military communique for 27 March, broadcast by the radio, said that Iraqi aircraft also raided an Iranian air defense system on the southern front east of Basra.

Although monitored Iranian media did not mention an Iraqi air attack on shipping near Khark Island, Tehran radio confirmed that Iraqi planes raided targets near Khorramabad andreported that Iraqi planes bombed Pol-e Dokhtar, a small town located near oil fields southwest of Khorramabad. Meanwhile, Athens radio announced that a Greek tanker was hit by a rocket in the Gulf, adding that efforts were under way to tranship the oil from the tanker so that the vessel can be repaired.

Chemical Weapons, Mediation — Welcoming the UN delegation's report confirming Iraq's use of chemical weapons, Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati called on the UN Security Council to adopt a clear-cut position and condemn the Iraqi Government, according to IRNA. In another development, Algerian FLN Political Bureau member Mohamed Cherif Messaadia denied recent reports that Algeria has formulated a plan to end the Iran-Iraq war but stressed that his country is still making mediation efforts to end the conflict, QNA reported.

Israel

The Knesset elections apparently will be held in July, although Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir and Labor Party Chairman Shim'on Peres will meet again shortly to finalize the date, IDF Radio announced in a report on the outcome of a 28 March meeting between the Likud and Alignment leaders. Noting that the Alignment wants the elections early in July while Likud prefers to hold them later, the radio said it is improbable that this difference will prevent Shamir and Peres from reaching an agreement.

Jordan

Jordan is holding talks with the British Government to purchase 1,100 surface-to-air antiaircraft missiles after the United States suspended Jordan's request for Stinger missiles, Radio Monte Carlo reported citing Western diplomatic sources in Amman. Meanwhile, Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri met with British Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs Richard Luce to review bilateral relations and the Middle East situation, Amman radio stated.

Saudi Arabia

The Saudi Cabinet is studying the idea of national military conscription and whether it should be compulsory, King Fahd announced in an open dialogue with students broadcast by Riyadh radio on 26 March.

Iran

Two Turkish diplomats were wounded in an assassination attempt in Tehran early on 28 March, IRNA reported. A Turkish Foreign Ministry statement cited by Ankara Radio held Armenian terrorists responsible for the attacks and said Turkey has asked Iran to take measures to protect Turkish Embassy personnel in Tehran.

Lebanon

A French diplomat was shot and seriously wounded while traveling to work at the French Embassy, Beirut and Paris radios reported. Meanwhile, Voice of Lebanon radio said that clashes continued across the contact lines, injuring about 20 people in East Beirut. The Islamic Jihad Organizaton claimed responsibility for subsequent explosions in Druze shops in West Beirut, according to the Voice of Lebanon and the clandestine Radio Free Lebanon.

PLO Affairs

PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat arrived in Tunis on 27 March after concluding talks with high-ranking officials in Algeria, Tunis radio announced. Before leaving, 'Arafat announced that Algeria will host the fifth Fatah Conference and the 17th PNCsession although he did not provide dates for either, the radio added.

Egypt

Reports that ground, sea, and air borders with Libya will be opened on 29 March are "totally untrue," an official source cited by MENA announced. Such a move should be preceded by an agreement between the two countries based on a "genuine wish" to foster interaction and should not be made unilaterally, the official added.

Meanwhile, President Husni Mubarak, in a 27 March speech reported by MENA, commended President Reagan's "firm stand" in rejecting recent proposals by "irresponsible quarters" to transfer the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. He warned those who support such a move that they are subjecting U.S. interests to "immense danger and great jeopardy."

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Weather,Technical Problems Cause MIG-17 Crash

LD271811 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] A DRA Defense Ministry spokesman reported that an Air Force MIG-17 that took off from Kandahar airbase on 25 March on a training flight ran into bad weather and had technical problems. The pilot became lost, left Kandahar airspace, and crashed after running out of fuel.

The pilot, Lieutenant Hashim was killed in the crash. His body was handed over to Afghan authorities in (Espinboldak) by personnel of the Afghan Consulate in Quetta.

AFP: Rebel Attacks on Tankers Spark Gasoline Shortage

BK271514 Hong Kong AFP in English 1503 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Islamabad, March 27 (AFP) — Repeated guerrilla attacks on oil tanker trucks bringing fuel from the Soviet Union have sparked a severe gasoline shortage in Afghanistan, forcing Soviet troops to reduce their military activities, Western diplomatic sources here said.

The shortage, said to be the worst since the Soviet invasion four years ago, has obliged Soviet and government forces to cancel training flights at the Kabul and Bagram air bases and limit the number of MIG and helicopter sorties, the diplomats said.

According to reports from Western diplomats posted in the Afghan capital, Moslem guerrillas have succeeded in destroying some 60 tanker trucks in the past week near the Salang Pass through the Hindu Kush mountains north of Kabul.

Unconfirmed reports said mujahedeen on horseback had also attacked Soviet fuel convoys in the northern Afghan plain between Pul-e-Khumri and the Soviet river port of Hairatan.

In Kabul, gasoline shortages have reduced traffic by three-fourths, diplomats said. Only government and military vehicles and some taxis could obtain gas freely, while severe rationing forced ordinary motorists to wait up to four hours in line.

Sources said the attacks represented a concerted effort by several guerrilla factions, including the mujahedeen of Ahmad Shah Masud who were hoping to delay the start of an expected Soviet offensive in the strategic Panjshir Valley.

Military experts here said the logistical problems in supplying the 105,000-strong Soviet occupying force were formidable, especially in the absence of rail transportation in Afghanistan. The attacks on supply convoys showed the guerrillas had reached a new level of effectiveness, they said.

Security Forces' Operations Against Rebels Noted

LD201802 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 20 Mar 84

[Text] A BAKHTAR information agency correspondent reports from Paktia Province that an operation carried out by the security forces of the province in the Spinah Khowlah and (Wazah Khowlay) areas resulted in 32 traitors to the homeland and people belonging to murderer bands being crushed. A quantity of weapons and equipment was seized from thse criminals.

An operation carried out in the Chahar Bagh-e Laghman by the security forces of the province resulted in 13 rebels being killed; 26 assorted weapons, 1,500 rounds of ammunition, mortar shells, and 2 loudspeakers were seized from these lunatics. Two equipment stores, a foodstuff depot, and eight gun emplacement locations were destroyed.

An operation by the vigilant forces in the (Nezam-e Shaid) District of Herat Province resulted in 20 rebels being killed. A quantity of weapons, equipment, and antistate documents were seized from these criminals.

An operation in the villages of Ghowr Province resulted in seven rebels and their weapons being captured. During another operation in (Baba Qashqar) village in the Nahr-e Shahi District by the vigilant security forces of Balkh Province, one rebel leader belonging to the Harakat-e Eslami [as heard] criminal band was captured. Documents and a quantity of antistate papers were seized from him.

An operation carried out in the villages of (Chamtal) District, Balkh Province, resulted in 10 traitors to the homeland and people belonging to criminal rebels bands being crushed.

Samangan Province

LD211723 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 21 Mar 84

[Text] A number of the counterrevolutionary elements belonging to Khalis band, who had been disrupting the peaceful life of the toiling people in Shorqol village, Hazrat-e Soltan Subdistrict, Samangan Province, recently were crushed by the vigilant security forces of the country; another 10 of them, led by Zalmy, were arrested. A security source said three various weapons, a quantity of ammunition, and hand grenades made in China and Pakistan were seized.

Voice of Islamic Revolution: Draftees Attack Recruiters

GF221931 (Clandestine) Voice of Islamic Revolution of Afghanistan in Dari 1700 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Excerpts] The struggle of the Islamic mujahidin throughout our beloved country continues against the Soviet forces and the forces of the puppet regime. According to reports, recent draftees into Karmal's Army attacked Army recuiters in Rish Khvor. The report says that in this armed clash, some 60 officers and men of the puppet regime were killed.

15-Party Alliance To Join Dialogue With Ershad

BK280140 Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The 15-party alliance at a meeting in Dhaka has decided to join the proposed political dialogue with the president, Lieutenant General H.M. Ershad, as soon as possible. The Awami League chief, Sheikh Hasina, presided over the meeting.

A press release issued by the alliance says the decision of the meeting will be conveyed to the president. It says the alliance is ready in principle to take part in the dialogue on the basis of its 5-point demand. The alliance is not against the discussions with the government for solution to the political problems facing the country.

Delhi Says Alliance Asks Ershad To Postpone Talks

BK280215 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] In Bangladesh, the 15-party opposition alliance has asked President Ershad to postpone the political talks scheduled for today till the 3d of next month.

In a statement in Dhaka, they said the talks cannot be held as consultations are necessary. General Ershad had invited the leaders for talks today.

President Meets With Saudi Special Envoy

BK280938 Dhaka Overseas Service in Bengali 0900 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Special envoy of King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, Dr Muhammad 'Abd al-Latif al-Mulham, today delivered a personal message from the Saudi king to President Ershad. Dr al-Mulham, who is a state minister and member of the Council of Ministers of Saudi Arabia, called on the president at the Banga Bhavan; he visited with the president for some time and discussed matters relating to mutual interest.

Earlier, the Saudi envoy called on Foreign Minister A.R. Shamsud Doha. The Saudi special envoy arrived in Dhaka this morning.

Briefs

Economic Achievements — Realistic steps taken by government to revitalize the country's ailing economy has paid handsome dividends so far. The gross domestic products rose by 2.7 percent during 1982-83 from 0.9 percent in the previous year. It is expected to increase by 5.2 percent during the current fiscal year. The inflation now stands at 9.27 percent as against 10.1 percent in 1983. The foreign exchange reserves have also improved appreciably during the last 2 years. The country's foreign exchange reserves stood at 1,287 crore taka in March this year compared to 604 crore taka in March last year. [Excerpt] [Dhaka Domestic Service in English 0110 GMT 24 Mar 84 BK]

Dockworkers Strike Talks To Resume 29 March

BK280844 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Further talks were held in New Delhi this morning to end the dockworkers strike. It is understood that the package proposal given by the government was further discussed. It was felt that certain more exercises are needed on various points. Clarification was given on some points raised by the workers representatives. The talks will be resumed tomorrow.

Soviet Warning to Pakistan Over Radio Noted

BK271613 Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1330 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] The Soviet Union has warned Pakistan that setting up of a branch of radio station — Libery and Free Europe — on its territory will be treated as an unfriendly act. A TASS report said that the Soviet Union considers this Munich-based station as financed and controlled by the American Central Intelligence Agency. The news agency was commenting on the discussions held recently between the head of the radio station, Mr James Buckley, and the Pakistani leaders on the establishment of a regional bureau of the station in Islamabad.

Leaders Meet With Algerian Vice Trade Minister

Prime Minister Gandhi

BK271629 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] A message from President Chadli Bendjedid of Algeria was delivered to the prime minister, Mrs Gandhi, in New Delhi today by the Algerian special envoy, Mr Mohammad Abbar Khan.

Mr Abbar Khan, who is Algeria's vice minister of external trade, also met the planning minister, Mr S.B. Chavan, and the minister of state for commerce, Mr Laskar. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr A.A. Rahim, hosted a lunch in his honor.

Minister of State for Commerce

BK280415 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] India has offered assistance to Algeria in its economic and industrial plans. At a meeting held in New Delhi between the Algerian vice minister for external trade, Mr Mohammad Abbar Khan, and the minister of state for commerce, Mr N.R. Laskar, both the countries expressed their desire to expand bilateral trade. They also agreed to collaborate in setting up joint ventures in third countries.

The Algerian minister called on the prime minister and the planning minister also. The minister of state for external affairs, Mr Rahim, hosted a lunch in his honor. Indian projects in Algeria under execution are valued at 235 crore rupees.

Rao Meets Envoy to Iran on Regional Developments

BK280419 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The Indian ambassador in Tehran, Mr. A.H. Khaleeli, met the external affairs minister, Mr Narasimha Rao, and the foreign secretary, Mr Rasgotra, in New Delhi yesterday. He has been called for consultations in the context of developments in the region and the initiatives taken by India to defuse the situation.

5 Killed in Bomb Explosion at Air Force Station

BK271557 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] In Jamnagar, four Air Force personnel and a civilian were killed in an explosion in the bomb storage area at the Air Force station. The explosion occurred during the normal handling of bombs. A court of inquiry has been instituted.

The defense minister, Mr Venkataraman, has sent messages of condolence to the bereaved families.

Over 2,000 Ex-Servicemen Hold Punjab Peace March

BK280209 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] One person was killed and two injured when some unidentified miscreants fired on them near village (Dhanola) in Sangrur district of Punjab last evening. While the victims were returning from a function in a jeep, the assailants were reported to be waiting for them near a drain. The culprits escaped after the incident.

In Punjab, more than 2,000 ex-servicemen have taken a pledge to sacrifice their lives for national unity, communal harmony, and defense. They held a peace march in Bhatinda City.

Lok Sabha Session Discusses Defense Budget

BK221645 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 22 Mar 84

[Text] The Lok Sabha was told that the ordnance factories and public sector defense units are being geared up to achieve self-sufficiency and self-reliance in defense production. Intervening in the discusssion on the budgetary demands for defense, the minister of state for defense, Mr K.P. Singh Deo, said impressive progress has been made by these units during the last 4 years. The combined profit of the units was 720 million in 1982-83, 150 million more than the previous year. Mr Singh Deo said efforts are being made to explore the export prospects. The exports during the current year are expected to be 420 million rupees as against 270 million last year.

The minister said that production of trainer aircraft in Bangalore and Kanpur has begun. Deliveries of first batch of gliders are expected by the end of the current year.

During the discussion, many members emphasized the need to strengthen the Navy in view of the long coastline and developments in the Indian Ocean. The debate will continue.

Rajya Sabha Briefed on Uranium Production

BK230355 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0240 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Text] The Rajya Sabha has been told that the country's nuclear program has not suffered any setback due to shortage of enriched uranium or heavy water. The minister for state for atomic energy, Mr Shivaraj Patil, said more plants are being set up for heavy water, and the production of the existing plants is being accelerated. Exploratory work on uranium resources is also being speeded up.

EXPRESS Views Acquisition of New Arms From USSR

BK261536 Delhi INDIAN EXPRESS in English 12 Mar 84 p 6

[Editorial: "To What End?"]

[Text] Marshal Dimitriy Ustinov has returned to Moscow with an impressive accord relating to the supply of advanced and futuristic military hardware that will strengthen and augment India's land, sea and air forces and assure continuing access to and transfer to it of the lastest Soviet defence technology. Some of the items on which agreement has been reached were in the pipeline and had been discussed when Mr R. Venkataraman visited the Soviet Union last year. But quite some more has been added to the shopping list. If Mrs Gandhi is pleased. Moscow should be delighted. The timing and urgency of the Soviet Defence Minister's visit and the range and status of those included on his delegation would suggest this was more than an ordinary goodwill tour. It was to have been made by Andropov to assure and ensure continuing Indo-Soviet fraternity and cooperation in the post-Brezhnev era. But since he fell ill, it was later decided that Marshal Ustinov should stand in for him. The Soviet Defence Minister was all set to come to Delhi several weeks ago but had hurriedly to cancel the visit as Andropov's end was near. The fact that the visit should have been rescheduled so soon after the Chernenko succession suggests the high importance attached to it not merely in terms of Indo-Soviet friendship but of the Soviet Union's global perspectives and Moscow's perception of India's role therein.

Marshal Ustinov echoed in terms Mrs Gandhi's concern over the deteriorating security environment in the region and in particular the induction of sophisticated (U.S.) arms in South Asia and the increasing militarisation of the Indian Ocean. But Soviet commentators have long been denouncing U.S. arms supplies to Pakistan and have gone on record warning India against falling into the "trap" of entering into a no-war pact with Islamabad — a strange and not altogether disinterested refrain. Indian Government spokesmen and others have constantly referred to Pakistan having been sucked into the U.S. strategic consensus concerning South West Asia. If so, is India being similarly sucked into the corresponding Soviet geo-strategic "consensus" in this part of the world? India of course professes non-alignment; so too does Pakistan.

By Mr Venkataraman's own admission, repeated over the months, India enjoys clear military superiority over Pakistan. This is particularly so in armour which would be decisive in any future Indo-Pakistan war, as well as in the air, the F-16s notwithstanding, and at sea. Pakistan is acquiring or scouting around for certain advanced missiles and surveillance capability. This will now be more than matched by what the Soviet Union has offered to supply — advanced fighters, missiles and transports, electronic countermeasures, advanced air defence systems, and naval supplies, including sophisticated surveillance and detection equipment. What the bill might be is unstated and may never be made known as in the case of other defence supplies. But the new defence budget, now estimated at Rs. 6,800 crore, is surely going to rise further. To what end?

India has good reason to be concerned over the escalating Iran-Iraq conflict, continuing uncertainties in West Asia, and the situation in Afghanistan. It is not known if Mrs Gandhi spoke to Marshal Ustinov about Afghanistan and, if she did, in what terms and with what result. This is an area where Indian influence should be brought to bear. The Government has repeatedly given public expression to its anxiety about reports that the U.S. is seeking bases or other facilities in Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and elsewhere in the region. These have again been denied very recently by official U.S. spokesmen and by Pakistan. However, the superpowers are locked in rivalry in the southern Asia-Indian Ocean region, which is a fact that India cannot ignore. It would be tragic were both India and Pakistan even involuntarily to be drawn into this confrontation. The Chinese President has just been visiting Pakistan but spoke warmly of the need for improved Indo-Pakistan relations. The Chinese and Pakistanis may view the Ustinov visit and its outcome with some reserve but there is every reason for India to do all it can to prevent this spoiling current efforts at normalisation. Indeed. India must signal its desire earnestly to conclude a no-war pact and friendship treaty with Pakistan and not permit its latest arms acquisitions to trigger a further arms race.

Commentary Views 'Threat to India's Security'

BK241337 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1545 GMT 23 Mar 84

[Spotlight on "Threat to India's Security," talk by C.S. Pandit of *BAZAR PATRIKA*]

[Text] If there was any lasting skepticism in any quarters about India's repeated warnings about the steady deterioration in the security environment in South Asian region, particularly in its immediate neighborhood, it has been completely dissipated by the U.S. secretary of defense, Mr Caspar Weinberger. In his annual report for fiscal year 1985, he has stated that in the past few years, the United States has dramatically improved the military capabilities of Southwest Asian region. Perhaps it is an improvement from the U.S. point of view of its global strategic interests, but for countries of the region, like India, who do not share the same strategic perceptions, it has not only posed a serious security threat to themselves, but has also fuelled an arms

race which in itself has the seeds of increasing tensions among neighbors.

The induction of a new generation of highly sophisticated weapons into Pakistan as part of the overall U.S. strategic consensus in the region has created a situation for India which inevitably leads to an arms race between these two countries, apart from bringing the cold war between the two superpowers to their very doorsteps. It is not as if India has talked of the security threat only now. The prime minister, Mrs Indira Gandhi, alerted the country of the gathering war clouds as early as 1980 soon after she came back to power. Her fears were not unfounded, as was proved within a year or so when the United States unfolded its strategic consensus for the region under a new full-fledged command with Diego Garcia base in the Indian Ocean as its epicenter and an arc of like-minded countries armed to the teeth against what it visualizes as a direct threat to the strategic oil supplies from the Gulf. This arc of defense, as it is often referred to, is in its ramifications more an arc of offense for the countries of the region. Today, the Indian Ocean, particularly the Arabian Sea, is crawling with the nuclear submarines of the superpowers just outside the territorial waters of littoral states like India. The concentration of the military and naval might of the big powers in the region, and steady dumping of sophisticated weapons in countries of the neighborhood, like Pakistan, has created an atmosphere of tension which can spark off not merely local proxy wars, as in the past, but even a nuclear holocaust, since West Asia has become the major flashpoint of the intense cold war which has reappeared between superpowers.

From India's point of view, this is the major security threat to this region. Added to this are the local tensions. It has been India's experience in the past that whenever Pakistan has been drawn into any such military alliance and gets armed in the process, it had unleashed a military adventurism against this country. History cannot be ignored. Besides, one fails to see the logic of Pakistan acquiring a new generation of sophisticated weapons far beyond its needs on the plea of the presence of the Soviet troops in neighboring Afghanistan. The basic questions that arise are: Can Pakistan, how well armed it may be, pick on a superpower like the Soviet Union and can it use the weapons, like tanks and F-16's it has been acquiring under a program of American assistance, on the mountainous travails on its western border? It is only on the eastern border and against India that these weapons can be used and may well be used once Pakistan's military regime feels threatened internally and strong enough to make quick gains in Jammu and Kashmir. Another argument put forward from Washington in favor of the arms aid to Pakistan is that it will give Pakistan enough sense of security to desist from going in for nuclear weapons. But, some of the recent statements by people in charge of Pakistan's nuclear program not only negate this argument, but give the impression of its unbounded ambition to be treated on par with other nuclear weapons powers in order to be able to strike hard bargains internationally. The clandestine way Pakistan went about getting uranium enrichment capability itself is proof enough of that country's obsession. In the circumstances, one wonders whether the United States is really serious when it talks of preventing proliferation of nuclear weapons on the one side and promoting peace and development in the countries of the region on the other. On the contrary, its policy of giving sophisticated weapons to Pakistan and other countries of the region has cast a heavy burden on a country like India which has to divert huge resources from development to defense.

It is often argued that India already is a much bigger country with huge resources. Militarily too, it is much stronger than Pakistan, and therefore does not have to be worried too much by the induction of some arms and modernization of the Armed Forces. But they forget that India has to guard a much bigger border, not only against Pakistan. Its coastline too is far bigger and, therefore, there can be no comparison between the two. What is important to note, however, is that Pakistan has not only expanded its Armed Forces to double their size in 1971, but has also gone in for a new generation of sophsiticated equipment, making their striking power far greater. It is also a fact that three-fourths of its Army is stationed not on the border with Afghanistan, but on its border with India, which has to match it with an equal number. The recent exercises that it undertook across the border and the line of actual control in Jammu and Kashmir were hardly conducive to building confidence. Indeed, they gave the impression of hectic preparations for a quick offensive operation which India can ignore only at its own risk.

There has been much talk of India not responding in equal measure to Pakistan's offer of a nonaggression pact. The fact of the matter is that India's response to give greater content to any such pact or treaty has not found any encouragement from the Pakistani side. This has left the general impression that the Pakistani proposal, perhaps made under pressure from Washington, is only a cosmetic one, and is not meant to pave the way for an enduring relationship. Even so, India is keen to continue the dialogue despite occasional irritants which vitiate the atmosphere, if only to keep the door opened for some understanding some time. Simultaneously, India cannot ignore the threat that induction of sophisticated weapons into Pakistan poses, and has to match that in equal measure lest its security is threatened. One of the main hurdles in normalization talks has been Pakistan's unwillingness to reiterate in any proposed pact its commitment as a nonaligned nation not to give any bases to foreign powers. It invokes its sovereignty as an argument. India has repeatedly assured Pakistan that it does not question its sovereignty, it only wants its reiteration of its commitment to the basic principles of nonalignment. Increasing arms flow into Pakistan and its military regime's unwillingness to make any firm commitment on issues impinging on the security of not only India, but of the whole region, are hardly conducive to creating the kind of trust and confidence which alone can make a no-war pact or a friendship treaty effective and meaningful.

Meanwhile, the evolution of the so-called strategic consensus of the Americans in the region can spell disaster for countries which are willy-nilly drawn into it, as Pakistan seems to be. Either its government is intentionally overlooking the danger in its obsession to acquire new weapons and military muscle or is unable to withstand the pressure of the superpower. In either case, it poses a serious threat to India's security which no government in New Delhi can ignore. But the price these countries have to pay for it is heavy in terms of diversion of scarce resources form development to defense.

Spokesman: No Truth to Indian Statement on Bomb

BK271728 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman has said there is no truth whatsoever in the statement reportedly made by the Indian foreign secretary yesterday alleging that Pakistan has manufactured an atomic bomb and China may have helped it to explode its first underground nuclear device. The Pakistan Government has asked New Delhi for the text of the Indian foreign secretary's statement.

According to reports in the Indian press, the Indian foreign secretary further stated that the foreign minister of Pakistan had attended a 2-day meeting of the nuclear experts at the explosion site in China. This allegation too is totally false and baseless. The Pakistan Government is committed to a policy of using atomic energy exclusively for peaceful purposes. It is opposed to the proliferation of nuclear weapons and had put forward a number of concrete and feasible proposals for the establishment of a nuclear weapon-free region, particularly in South Asia.

Delhi Report on Soviet Warning Termed Baseless

BK271617 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] A Foreign Office spokesman has expressed amazement over All-India Radio's broadcast today, which cited the Soviet news agency TASS as saying that the Soviet Union has warned Pakistan against the setting up of a radio station of Radio Free Europe. The spokesman said that whatever was said in All-India Radio's broadcast in this connection is completely baseless. The spokesman said there is no foreign radio station in Pakistan, and Pakistan is not considering allowing the establishment of such a radio station in the future.

President Zia Discusses Regional, National Issues

Plea for Muslim Unity

BK270435 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 26 Mar 84

[Text] The president, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, has made a strong plea for the unity of the Muslim community to revive their [as heard] past glory and safeguard their security. In an interview with journalists from Muslim countries in Rawalpindi, he emphasized that if the Muslim leaders in their own hearts feel that their welfare and security is not with America, Moscow, London, or somewhere else, then the Muslim world must unite around Ka'ba [central shrine of Islamic faith] for political, economic, and social guidance as it is the Haramain and Sharifain [sacred places of Mecca and Madinah] which is the uniting force.

Referring to the intervention in Afghanistan by the Soviet Union, he said it had brought a very drastic change in the geographical environment in the region requiring a very serious consideration not only by Pakistan but by the entire world community, more so by the Muslim community. He said Pakistan is engaged in an effort to find a political solution to this global problem taking the Soviet Union on their [as heard] word to withdraw from Afghanistan.

The president said Pakistan as enjoined by Islam wants to have peaceful coexistence with its neighbors whether they are small or big. Pakistan has taken enough of measures unilaterally. Even now it was unilaterally on a peace offensive with India with honor and dignity and as an equal partner. But its gesture is not being reciprocated. He said there was now a lobby inside India praising Pakistan for its policy of peaceful coexistence.

In reply to a question, the president firmly declared that there are no American bases in Pakistan. We have made it clear to the United States that Pakistan is a nonaligned country.

Replying to another question about Islamization efforts in Pakistan, he said we are moving ahead through a gradual evolution. The people, however, expect a very fast and revolutionary change. He told a questioner that Pakistan has no intention to nationalize any private bank. As for the nationalized banks, they intend to implement their decision to introduce riba [interest] free banking by October next year. They would then plead with the private banks to follow suit as it was the most beneficial system.

In reply to a question, he said Pakistan has taken serious notice of the move to shift the American Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. He said the status of Jerusalem must be decided in accordance with the Organization of Islamic Conference and the UN General Assembly resolutions and the Fahd plan.

Law, Order Situation

GF271832 Karachi DAWN in English 26 Mar 84 P 1

[Text] Karachi, March 25: President Gen. Mohammad Ziaul Haq today said there was no delay on the part of his government in undertaking discussions with political leaders on matters of national interest.

In a brief meeting with journalists at Karachi Airport on arrival here this evening from Islamabad, he said "my doors are always open" whenever politicians wanted to meet him, and so there was no need to issue any "special invitations" for such talks.

Asked whether the government intended to release political detenus since the political situation was returning to normal, he replied that the process of freeing imprisoned politicians was a continuing one.

The provincial governments were from time to time releasing those political detenus who were still behind the bar and just recently the Sind Government had freed five politicians, he added.

The president declared that the government had to take action against those politicians who "took the law into their hands" and it was such persons who were taken into custody as and when the need arose.

Answering another question, he stated that by and large, the general law and order situation throughout the country was

alright. He agreed with the questioner that there were incidents of dacoity and other crimes but commented that this was due to the ills affecting contemporary society, and criminal activities occurred under any form of government, be it civil or military.

A thorough-going reform of society from the top of the bottom was necessary in order to bring about a change of morals and reduce crimes to the absolute minimum, he added.

He went on to say that giving incidents of dacoity and other offences prominent display in the press created the impression that there was a general breakdown in law and order, but this was not the case in reality.

He said newspapers should of course give the proper coverage to crimes but avoid overdoing it. He declined to be drawn on the question of any new entrants into the federal cabinet.

Asked to comment on the ongoing student agitation, President Ziaul Haq expressed the hope that the student community would act "reasonably", pay attention to their studies and eschew violence.

Answering another question, he said Urdu was the official language and it was being introduced into all the relevant spheres of national life.

President Ziaul Haq said relations between Malaysia and Pakistan have been greatly strengthened as a result of talks held with the visiting Malaysian Prime Minister Dato Seri Dr Mahathir bin Mohammad.

He said that "a very good" series of discussions had taken place between the Pakistani and Malaysian leadership during Dr Mahathir's current six-day official visit to Pakistan (which ends tomorrow).

Both Pakistan and Malaysia were brotherly Islamic countries and this religious bond had served to further cement their links he added.

The President, General Mohammad Ziaul Haq, attended dinner hosted by the Sind Governor Lt. General S.M. Abbasi in honour of the visiting Malaysian Prime Minsiter Dato Seri Dr Mahathir bin Mohamad, at the Governor House tonight.

Nuclear Energy; U.S., PRC Aid

BK280137 Karachi Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Excerpts] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq inaugurated the national agricultural research center in Islamabad today. Speaking on the occasion, he said the results of research should aim at englightening the farmers, particularly small farmers, with scientific means of production. The agricultural research council should reach out to them to enlighten them with modern scientific knowledge to achieve maximum production, particularly in the barani [dependent on rain] areas.

He also referred to the activities of the Pakistan Atomic Energy Commission which is engaged in a peaceful program in the fields of energy, agriculture, medicine, and health for the benefit of mankind. He said the outside world must know that Pakistan is not engaged in the production of nuclear weapons.

Emphasizing the need for self-sufficiency, the president said Pakistan, which had gone through too many crises, wanted to stand on its feet in all fields, including its security. As such, the foremost duty of his government was to give top priority to solving the country's security problems and to safeguard its solidarity and stability. The president said in order to stand on our own feet, Pakistan itself proposed to the United States that out of the $3.2 billion military sales, which the U.S. had offered to Pakistan, $1.6 billion should be converted into economic assistance program. The United States was prepared to give to Pakistan whatever it needed for its security without asking for anything in return.

The president also referred to the Chinese assistance to Pakistan in the military and economic fields, which was meant to enable Pakistan to stand on its own feet. The president thanked the United States and other international agencies for providing generous assistance in the setting of the national agricultural research center to help boost agricultural production in the country.

Islamic Democracy, Soviet Ties

GF271820 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 26 Mar 84 P 18

[Report on interview with President Ziaul Haq by *AL-BAYAN* correspondent 'Abd al-Qadir Yasin in Islamabad — date not given]

[Excerpts] I said to General Ziaul Haq: The Western media quoted you as saying that the form of democracy that you have in mind is limited and gurantees total authority for the president to control matters. If that is true, then what is the role that will be played by the opposition in this democracy?

The president said: First of all, I would like to say that we do not approve of limited participation; on the contrary,we approve of a large-scale popular participation. However, this should be explained. What are the principles of Islamic democracy and that of an Islamic government? Islam does not note the importance of establishing a parliamentarian or presidential or dictatorial regime or any other type of rule. It defined the principles of the rule and in accordance with these principles there should be the largest possible participation by the people. And through the election of the government there is no chance for a power or an opposition between the government and people since all will support the government because they elected it. And if the government adopts a wrong policy then everyone will oppose it and each individual will have the right to criticize; and if the government adopts the right way, then nobody has the right to oppose it just for the sake of opposing, that is, the government will be only responsible before the people.

Regarding a question on Pakistan's ability to produce nuclear arms, President Ziaul Haq said: Pakistan is very lucky because

it has high-level cadres and needless to say that we have huge demands for energy and thus we have to make efforts to obtain resources that produce this energy. Regarding the usage of the natural resources, we have machinery that operates on coal and oil; Pakistan produced only 15 percent of its oil needs and the rest is imported.

Since 1965 we were able to obtain nuclear power plants and they continued to operate until 1976; this compensated for part of the energy needs and due to that Pakistan had to look for alternative sources. We have reserves of uranium and our scientists had to use it to close this deficit.

I take great pride in our scientists who were able to increase the capacity of small quantities of uranium to use it in peaceful fields. Pakistan's enemies used this effort and circulated rumors about it. Pakistan is not preoccupied in the manufacture of any nuclear arms but it is preoccupied and working diligently for scientific progress. For over 37 years it has considered itself to be part of the Islamic nation and undoubtedly its progress is a part of the progress of Muslims throughout the world.

The Pakistani president said: Pakistan will not try to possess or manufacture nuclear bombs but at the same time it will not relinquish its right to possess nuclear technology.

In reply to a question regarding Pakistani-Soviet relations in Konstantin Chernenko's time, Gen Ziaul Haq said: It is still too early to envisage how the relations will be. However, we hope that they will improve. There are no mutual problems between Pakistan and the Soviet Union. Our relations are good. The Soviets constructed a huge steel complex in Karachi. They want Pakistan to negotiate with Afghanistan to find a solution to the Afghan problem. Pakistan is not part of the Afghan problem despite the fact that is suffering from it. The problem would not have occurred without the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

I told President Ziaul Haq that the United States will supply F-16 planes to Pakistan. What will Pakistan give in exchange and will it grant facilities to the U.S. forces in Pakistan?

The president said: Pakistan is a nonaligned country and is not subservient to the United States. We will not give any facilities to the U.S. forces. We have criticized the U.S. policy many times. We voted against the invasion of Grenada at the United Nations and always opposed U.S. support to Israel and its policy in the Middle East.

Sind Teachers Convention Warns Authorities

GF271830 Karachi DAWN in English 26 Mar 84 P 7

[Excerpt] Hyderabad, March 25: A one-day teachers' convention, held under the auspices of the Sind Teachers Coordination Committee here, strongly condemned the "lukewarm" attitude of Sind Education Department and warned that if the demands of teachers were not accepted "within one month," they would not be responsible for any "untoward incidents" in the educational institutions of Sind.

The convention, which was presided over by Dr. A.S. Daudpota, was attended by primary, secondary and college teachers from all parts of the country.

Prof. Zafar Ali Kha, from Punjab, was the chief guest. It was addressed by Mrs. Saeeda Bashir, Messrs Abdul Rahim Jatoi, Aziz Ujjan, Iqbal Shuja, Jameel Ahmad and Kazi Siraj and others.

The convention fully supported the demands of the All-Pakistan Professors and Lecturers Association.

Turkish Diplomats Wounded in Assassination Attempt

LD280925 Tehran IRNA in English 0906 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Tehran, March 28, IRNA — The two Turkish Embassy staffers who were wounded in an assassination attempt here this morning have been hospitalised in northern Tehran. The political deputy of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Hoseyn Sheykh ol-Eslam visited them at the hospital.

One of those wounded is the first secretary of the embassy, Hasan Oktem and the second is the assistant of the military attache of the embassy, Ismail Pamukcu.

Greek Tanker Hit 'Long Way' From War Zone

LD281422 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] The Greek Government announced today that an Iraqi missile attack damaged a Greek oil tanker. It had been loaded in Kuwait and was hit while en route to Sicily on a region far from the war zone. A UNITED PRESS report adds that this announcement was made a short time after Iraq had announced that its aircraft had sunk two ships inside the war zone in the Persian Gulf. According to the same report, a spokesman for the Greek Ministry of Merchant Marine said: The 41,330-metric ton tanker, *Filikou*, which is registered in Greece, was hit by a missile after having been loaded in Kuwait.

An ASSOCIATED PRESS report from London states that [name indistinct], chairman of the New York company acting as the agent and broker for the *Filikou*, said: The tanker was loaded in Kuwait, and when the incident took place it was practically in Saudi Arabian waters, a long way south of the war zone. He said: The tanker was fully laden when hit by the missile and was hit about 60 centimeters above the water line. All the crew are safe.

These reports follow yesterday's claims by the Iraqi regime that it had sunk two naval targets inside the war zone.

Spokesman Says Iraq 'Overwhelmed With War Jitters'

LD281347 Tehran IRNA in English 1113 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Tehran, March 28, IRNA — The Iraqi regime frustrated by the repeated political and military defeats has again resorted to adventurism to create the impression that the Persian Gulf was unsafe.

The spokesman of the War Information Headquarters said here today that the Iraqi planes hit a Greek tanker near the Saudi Arabian coasts, by missile. The tanker had loaded in Kuwait and was sailing twards Sicily, he added.

He further said that the Iraqi regime overwhelmed with war jitters and in a bid to make the Persian Gulf unsafe and opening the way for foreign powers in the area, has stepped up insane activities.

By hitting a foreign ship which had loaded in Kuwait and was sailing some 110 kms to the southwest of Khark Island, has started a new round of trouble making, he added.

At the end he stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran has been doing all it could for maintaining security in the Persian Gulf and would continue to do so. He stressed that the whole responsibility of any mishap and jeopardising security of the Persian Gulf rested on Iraq.

Iraqi Aircraft Bomb Towns 27 March

LD272103 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] According to a Central News Unit dispatch from Khorramabad, at 1810 this evening, the heroic city of Pol-e Dokhtar was bombed by aircraft of the Iraqi Zionist regime. As of the time of this report, this raid has caused four martyrs and 23 wounded.

According to the same report, the town of Chamhar also was bombed by aircraft of the Iraqi Zionist regime. As of the time of this report, one person has been martyred and three wounded.

Village Near Andimeshk

LD280946 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] To retaliate against the victories of the combatants of Islam on the battle fronts, the Ba'thist Zionist forces of Iraq bombed the village of Hoseyniyeh, in Alvar, near Andimeshk, yesterday afternoon. Our correspondent reports:

[Begin recording] The criminal Saddam and his superpower potectors — who are helpless in the confrontation with the brave and self-sacrificing combatants of Islam; who have so far not been able to make the slightest dent in the firm resolve of forces of God, even with the use of chemical bombs and inhuman methods, to continue the war until final victory — cunningly and cruelly attack residential areas, defenseless people, towns, and villages of our Islamic homeland with rockets and missiles, presented to them by world arrogance, to avenge the disgraceful defeats of its Army by killing innocent people.

In continuation of such crimes, at 1900 yesterday, four residential areas of Hoseyniyeh, in the Alvar district, near Andimeshk, were attacked by fighter planes of the criminal regime of Saddam. Through 0630 today, the number of the martyrs is 28 and the injured more than 70.

Correspondent of the Voice and Vision of the Islamic Republic of Iran, Dezful, Pol-e Dokhtar. [end recording]

According to an IRNA report from Pol-e Dokhtar, as a result of the bombardment of the residential areas of that district and the village of Chamhar, 4 were martyred and more than 25 injured. The wounded were transferred to hospitals in Khorramabad. Also, as a result of this savage attack, a public bath and 7 houses were wrecked and more than 30 other houses were damaged.

Casualty Figures

LD281044 Tehran IRNA in English 0910 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Ahvaz, March 28, IRNA — Some 28 civilians were reported martyred and 62 others wounded so far as a result of the Iraqi aerial bombardment against the Alvar suburb of Andimeshk in Khuzestan province which was carried out at 17:45 hours local time (14:15 gmt) Tuesday.

This inhuman attack has also devastated 100 residential units.

Meanwhile, rescue operation is reported to be continuing with the efforts of the relief teams helped by the people to take any more possible bodies of the victims out of the rubble.

Armed Forces Joint Staff Communique No 1,678

LD271753 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Communique No 1,678 of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of Islamic Republic of Iran]

[Text] During the past 24 hours, a sporadic exchange of artillery and heavy weapons fire continued on most of the fronts in Piranshah, Sar Dasht, and Marivan between the victorious troops of Islam and the Iraqi Ba'thist mercenaries. Our forces opened fire on enemy positions, columns, and engineering groups and silenced their fire. In every region, they inflicted losses and casualties on the Saddamist forces. In the Hajj 'Umman region, they destroyed enemy positions and trenches, a supply bridge, and an observation post and annihilated a number of enemy soldiers.

In the Panjwin region, our forces sent out reconnaissance patrols and set up ambushes, thus controlling enemy movements and activities and delivering blows to the enemy that killed or wounded several soldiers.

At various times during the past 24 hours, enemy unit locations and engineering activities in (Kani Shaykh) and Choman Mustafa were observed, and accurate artillery fire by Islam's combatants halted their movements and destroyed the enemy forces.

On the border fronts in Bakhtaran, Ilam, and in the country's southern regions, Islam's powerful forces continued defensive operations and dispatched patrols to the defensive positions held by the Iraqi forces. They also subjected enemy positions, fortifications, and units to heavy artillery, tank, and mortar fire, inflicting losses and casualties on the enemy, disrupting or halting Iraqi troop movements, and killing or wounding a number of enemy servicemen. In one of the border regions in Bakhtaran, three of the enemy were killed and a number were wounded.

In the Khaybar operational regions, Islam's combatants are continuing to strengthen and consolidate their positions.

On the Arvand Rud fronts, our Gendarmerie combatants opened retaliatory fire on enemy units and positions, silenced his fire and destroyed at least nine trenches and foxholes of the Saddamist forces, killing several of the enemy and curbing enemy maneuvers and engineering activities.

The city of Abadan yesterday suffered one citizen martyred and two wounded by the fire of the criminal Saddamist forces. Several houses and shops were damaged.

Draftees Told To Report by 9, 20 April

LD271517 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] An announcement made by National Service Office of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic of Iran contains a request to draftees born between 1338 [year beginning 21 March 1959] and 1344 [year beginning 21 March 1965], and high school diploma holders born between 1338 and 1343 [year beginning 21 March 1964], born in Tehran or 19 provincial towns and districts, to report to their respective regimental centers and Gendarmerie companies by 9 April at the latest to begin military service.

The announcement states: Draftees born between 1338 and 1344, resident in Tehran, with identity cards issued in provincial cities, should report to the Vali 'Asr Barracks in Eshratabad by 9 April to begin their national service, which will last no more than 2 years, failing which they will be considered to be deserters and dealt with according to regulations.

The National Service Office of the Gendarmerie of the Islamic Republic similarly asks draftees having high school diplomas, born between 1338 and 1343, residing in the 3 military recruitment areas of Tehran and in provincial cities, who received their high school diplomas in Khordad [beginning 21 May] and Shahrivar [beginning 21 August 1983] or before, to report to their national service centers by 20 April.

However, ordinary draftees born 1338-44 in provincial cities and the districts of Qazvin, Urumiyeh, (Serow), (Liveh), Sanandaj, Divandarreh, Natanz, Sabzevar, (Lutfabad), Darreh Gaz, Minab, (Toyserkan), Gonbad, Zarand in Kerman, Sahneh, Songor, (Badgiran), (Kamgiran) and Shiraz, must report to their company headquarters or relevant recruitment centers by 20 April.

Volunteers Depart for Battle Fronts

GF251750 Shiraz Domestic Service in Persian 1530 GMT 25 Mar 84

[Text] To provide succor to the Islamic warriors in their struggle against the mercenaries of world oppression, a large group of noble youths left for the war front yesterday and today from the Saheb Az-Zaman Base in Shiraz. These fighters of blasphemy completed the necessary training in the eight precincts of District No 9 of the revolution guards in the southern provinces and have now left with complete preparation for the fronts of right versus wrong.

According to the Central News Unit from Yasuj, a large group of tribal truthseeking youths of the Boyer Ahmad district left for the war zones this morning to fight the Saddamist murderers.

UN Report on Chemical Weapons Viewed

Velayati: Sufficient Proof

LD271804 Tehran IRNA in English 1746 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Tehran, March 27, IRNA — Iran's Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati said here today that a report by a six-man U.N. delegation based on its findings in Iran is sufficient proof of the criminality of the Baghdad government. He said never since World War II had any government perpetrated war crimes as grave as Baghdad's waging of chemical warfare against Iranian combatants.

Dr. Velayati who was commenting on a Monday report to the United Nations by a six-man U.N. delegation to Iran said although the delegation's report was somewhat "conservative" in its wording, yet it had in effect corroborated repeated reports by Iran on Baghdad's employment of banned chemical weapons against Iran's soldiers. Said the minister, "Doubtless the Baghdad government has engaged in such acts upon support of its global and regional supporters."

The Iranian official implied elsewhere in his press interview here that the United States might have been somehow involved in supplying chemical weapons to the Baghdad government. Reminded Velayati, "obviously the United States is worried about the shaky status of the Iraqi government."

He said also that a recent visit to Baghdad by the U.S. envoy Donald Rumsfeld was to encourage the Baghdad government in its war against Iran and to supply its requirements.

Velayati said that the crimes committed by the Baghdad regime against Iran did not start or finish with its deployment of chemical weapons, but that ever since the outbreak of the war the ruling regime in Iraq had engaged in many crimes of war such as pounding residential quarters, and capturing civilians. He commented however, that in all probability "those who threw stumbling blocks on the way of the delegation's visit to Iran are not likely to sit quiet in the Security Council."

He noted now that the criminality of the Baghdad regime is evidenced in the report of the UN delegation, the Security Council of the United Nations must logically adopt a clear-cut position and condemn the Baghdad government. Said Velayati, "I am confident that members of the UN Security Council would not look forward to seeing the United Nations turn into a good-for-nothing- forum in its universal capacity. We are looking forward to seeing the global public opinion become the ruling opinion in this international forum." He said the Iranian government has a commitment to expose the nature of the ruling regime in Iraq to the world people because Iran believes that any time the world should connive at such crimes it will be then destined to become an unsafe place for all. "We are not however, counting on international forums," said he, "the end of the war will be determined in the battlefronts and by our own combatants...the Iraqi government is acting out of frustration. Its eventual downfall is already certain."

He demanded also that the UN should investigate and identify the countries which have provided lethal chemical weapons to Baghdad and "take very necessary decision in this relation."

Iraq is a signatory party to a non-proliferatin agreement of chemical weapons in conjunction with other world countries. It is a signatory party to other conventions of 1907, 1925, 1972 which ban employment of chemical, and toxic weapons.

Commentary: Supports Iran

GF271936 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] The United Nations has issued an official document which supports the statements of the Islamic Republic on the use of internationally banned chemical weapons by the ruling regime in Iraq. This support came following an inspection visit which was paid by a UN group to the battlefields where they saw the destructive effects of these poisonous bombs.

It is more a technical document than a political one but its conclusions will have widespread political effects and it can block the way of those weapons if it is followed by measures which we shall mention.

The first positive effect of this report is that it has exposed the ruling regime in Iraq which until now claims that it has not used these disastrous weapons. It gives this regime the credibility of an atom — this after the propogation about its policy. It has lost all its credibility and also the last iota of shamefulness which it had during the propagation of these feeble lies.

In their feeble situation, these tyrants thought that they can stop the advance of the Islamic liberation forces by using poisonous weapons but it has been proved that this means made the Islamic Revolution more firm and persistent to continue its way. The rulers of Iraq will find nothing but shame and disgrace until the day of resurrection.

Regarding the question about the effectivess of this document in stopping the barbarous assault, we should concentrate on this point and say that it is required internationally to stop the ruling regime in Iraq from using these weapons once again. This cannot be implemented by mere words or admonitions, but the statement issued by the United Nations should be followed by a practical condemnation and severe punishment capable of deterring the aggressors and all those who are thinking of committing similar ugly crimes in the 20th century.

Montazeri Meets With Bahraini Seminary Students

GF271944 Tehran IRNA in Arabic 1755 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Tehran, 27 Mar (IRNA) — Grand Ayatollah Montazeri yesterday received a number of Bahraini theology students who

study in Qom city's seminary. The brother Bahraini students explained the practices of the Bahraini Government against the Muslims and clergymen and the detention of some of them there.

During the meeting, Montazeri reviewed the role of the colonizers against the questions of jihad in the Islamic states and expressed regret because some Arab states in the region have not learned the lesson or received admonition from the fate of Mohammad Reza Shah's regime and his black ominous end. He said: That regime collapsed because of its oppressive treatment of the people and the clergymen and because it did not care for Islam although it relied on a strong army and hellish intelligence and in spite of the comprehensive U.S., European, Soviet, and Chinese support he received.

His eminence wondered why the region's states didn't learn a lesson, repent, and change their attitude toward Islam and the people.

His eminence urged the Muslims in the world to take care of their oppressed Muslim brothers who are detained in other countries because they defended Islam. He expressed hope that the State of Bahrain and the Arab states will mobilize their resources and powers to confront the enemies of Islam instead of using violence and force with the people, stop pumping oil and exporting wealth to the United States and its allies, prepare themselves to rescue holy Jerusalem, Al-Aqsa Mosque, and Lebanon from the claws of the Zionists, and follow the Islamic Republic of Iran along this path.

His Eminence Montazeri also received yesterday the imam's representative in the illitracy obliteration movement and the Friday imams of Shabestar and Meymeh. The citizens of Khormuj and Kordestan and the Bahraini students offered currency, gold, and jewelry to aid the war effort.

Free Voice of Iran Comments

GF271716 (Clandestine) Free Voice of Iran in Persian 1500 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri today threatened Bahrain and the UAE. The grand jurist, addressing the amirs in the Gulf, said they should learn from the evil fate of Mohammed Reza, the late shah.

The grand jurist, Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, said these threatening words in his meeting with delegates of a seminary held in Qom who had earlier discussed with him the influence and impact of the Khomeyni band in Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, and the UAE.

In this connection, our analyst writes that Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri neither knows the tricks of Khomeyni nor has the political tact of Hasehmi-Rafsanjani. Khomeyni and Hashemi-Rafsanjani know that there is no benefit in blaming the shah now when the people have discovered for themselves the unpleasant facts about the Islamic Revolution and have come to know the truth about Khomeyni and his cronies. In this atmosphere, Khomeyni and Hashemi-Rafsanjani know that naming the shah will further aggrevate the people against the leaders of the Islamic Republic. However, the grand jurist Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri has not discovered these facts and is far behind the times.

The threat to Bahrain and all other states in the Persian Gulf, especially after the failure of the Khomeyni coup in Manama, and which has made all Khomeyni envoys sent to these Gulf countries suspects, can only frighten the amir of Bahrain. It also shows Khomeyni's helplessness and that of his mullahs now facing opposition not only from the states in the western and southern part of the Gulf but the whole of Iran as well. They will know that the people cannot tolerate the mullahs anymore.

Bahraini Actions Against Mosques Condemned

LD271409 Tehran IRNA in English 1355 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Tehran, March 27, IRNA — The theological school of the Bahrainians at Qom today condemned the recent attack of the Bahrainian rulers on theological centers, mosques, and ulema in Bahrain sheikhdom and called on all Muslims and the world people to confront and condemn the prevailing imperialist plots in the region.

The statement called on all the Muslims to take up measures in order to relieve the Muslim people from the imperialist plots and staunchly confront such plots in the region.

Elections Official Profiles Majlis Candidates

LD271904 Tehran IRNA in English 1735 GMT 27 Mar 84

[Text] Tehran, March 27, IRNA — The headquarters for the second term of Majlis elections has so far received names of some 1,584 people who have announced their candidacy for the 270-seat assembly, said the director of the headquarters, Mustafa Tehrani here today.

Of that total, Tehrani said, 243 are from Tehran and the number of candidates from the war stricken areas is 31 who are from Abadan, Khorramshahr, Dasht-e Azadegan, Qasr-e Shirin, Mehran and Dehloran.

He said there are seven candidates from the Armenian religious minority from southern and northern Iran and the number of Jewish candidates is 4 while 4 others have announced their candidacy for a possible representation of the Assyrian and the Caledonian minorities and only one person to represent Zoroastrians.

Tehrani said election campaigns would begin on March 31 and end on April 14, a day before election day.

Pakistani Ambassador Cited on Regional Accord

LD241608 Tehran IRNA in English 1525 GMT 24 Mar 84

[Text] Tehran, March 24, IRNA — The Islamic Republic, Turkey and Pakistan last year agreed to have a permament tri-lateral commission at the ministerial level, Pakistan's outgoing ambassador to Iran, Abdul Malik Khattak said in an

interview with IRNA, on the occasion of Pakistan's independence day (March 23).

Asked about regional cooperation for development between the three neighboring countries, Mr. Khattak said "We believe this pact would be in the interests of the people of all three countries and would see progress."

"The initial background to this was that the Islamic Republic (of Iran) has felt it necessary to have a wider relationship with its Muslim neighbouring countries," he added.

He also said that Pakistan had always supported the idea put forth by Iran for the establishment of an Islamic common market organisation.

"We believe the community of Islamic countries should rely on themselves and not others," Mr. Khatak added.

On the Iraqi imposed war, the out-going ambassador said his country was against the war from the very start and it had used every opportunity to bring about an end to it.

He did not directly condemn Iraq for the use of chemical weapons in the war.

Mr. Khattak, who has served as ambassador for Pakistan for about two years, said Iran had made significant gains in the establishment of security in the country, the implementation of Islamic laws and the holding of several successful elections since the Islamic revolution.

In related news, a special ceremony was held at the Pakistani Embassy here Friday, in which President Ziaul Haq's message on the occasion was read.